

Dassault Mirage 2000

A lightweight aircraft boasting diverse multi-role functionality, the Dassault Mirage 2000 epitomises fourth-generation fighter jets, delivering an excellent high-speed flight profile and a low radar signature

The stats

Crew
One

Length
14 metres

Wingspan
Nine metres

Height
Five metres

Powerplant
1 x SNECMA M53-P2 turbofan

Max speed
Mach 2.2

Max range
1,550 kilometres

Max altitude
17,060 metres

Armament

- 2 x 30mm cannons
- 2 x 68mm Matra rocket pods
- 2 x R.550 Matra Magic-2s
- 2 x AM39 Exocets
- 2 x AS-30L laser-guided missiles
- 1 x ASMP-A tactical nuclear cruise missile
- 9 x Mk.82 free-fall bombs

Navigation
A Thomson-CSF RDM multimode radar allows the 2000C to easily migrate between air-to-air and air-to-surface operations, engaging multiple targets at any one moment.

Structure
The Mirage 2000 series works from a delta-wing platform, which offers superior high-speed agility. In addition the model has multi-spar metal wings and carbon-fibre-skinned elevons with alloyed, honeycomb cores.

DID YOU KNOW?
Dassault Mirage 2000s featured prominently in the 2005 film *Sky Fighters*

Powerplant
The Mirage's SNECMA M53-5 turbofan engine can produce a dry thrust of 64 kilonewtons and a whopping 98 kilonewtons in afterburner. The top speed rests at 2,400 kilometres per hour.

Avionics
The 2000C is equipped with a Uliss-52 inertial navigation system, TRT radio altimeter, Type 2084 digital flight controller and Sextant Avionique Type 90 air data computer.

Armament
Aside from two 30mm revolver-type cannons, the 2000C can be fitted with a variety of missiles and bombs over its nine hardpoints. These range from Matra Magic-2s through to a nuclear cruise missile.



Despite the Mirage 2000 production program ending in 2007, many are still in active service today
Source: Wiki/Staff Sgt. Aaron Almon, USAF



Two Mirage 2000Cs during a Baltic air-polling deployment role
Source: Wiki/Arz

5 top facts

1 Nuclear

The Mirage 2000 can carry and launch an ASMP nuclear cruise missile. This is a supersonic stand-off missile powered by a liquid-fuel ramjet. It has a max range of 300 kilometres.

2 Varied

The Mirage 2000 is currently operated in many countries worldwide, ranging from its country of origin, France, to nations the other side of the planet like Brazil and India.

3 Marcel

The Mirage's manufacturer, Dassault Aviation, was founded by Marcel Bloch in 1929. The company is now the foremost aerial defence contractor in France.

4 Zippy

The design phase of the Mirage 2000 project was incredibly swift, with the jet going from concept, through prototyping to production in just six years.

5 Libya

Despite being introduced over 30 years ago, the Mirage 2000 is still in active service. French Mirage 2000s helped enforce the Libyan no-fly zone in 2011.